

VAN ZELLERS & Co

SINCE 1620

THE OLDEST
PORT WINE FAMILY

CRAFTED BY TIME

Time is a master in mellowing down the strength of tannins, the muscle and structure of the wine, the fresh fruit, flower and earthy aromas that a young Port holds. Time brings new nuances of colour and an immense complexity of flavours.



VAN ZELLERS & CO XIX THE RARE PORT COLLECTION

STORY OF THE WINE

This **Rare Port Collection** is a lifetime achievement. It is the unveiling of three Very Very Old Tawny Portos that have silently been ageing in old oak casks for over a century. Each bottle is a drop of history. A unique occurrence. A rare moment that may never be repeated again in this lifetime.

These Very Very Old Tawny Portos are a tribute to **Liberty, Family and Poetry**.

Crafted by Liberty

The first Very Very Old Tawny Porto is dating from the time Abraham Lincoln was elected the 16th President of the United States of America, in 1860. This Port wine is a tribute to Liberty.

Crafted by Family

An exquisite Very Very Old Tawny Porto, dating from the time two cousins of the Van Zeller family married, in 1870, the great-great grandparents of the current generation that owns Van Zellers & Co. This Port wine celebrates Family.

Crafted by Poetry

This is an exceptional Very Very Old Tawny Port, from the time one of the greatest Portuguese poets, Fernando Pessoa, was born. In 1888, the birth of Fernando Pessoa is a mark that transformed modern Portuguese poetry. Throughout time, Ports gain characteristics that are more easily felt than described. Therefore, this Port wine enhances the beauty of Poetry.

Through Liberty, we have chosen them.

Through Family, we have cared for them.

Through Poetry, we are sharing them.

CRAFTING VERY VERY OLD TAWNY PORTS

Cristiano van Zeller is the 14th generation of a family continuously working in the Douro region since 1620, producing and selling Port and Douro Wines. He has dedicated his life to Port and the Douro region. He recognizes through experience, taste, and intuition the quality behind each wine.

This knowledge has been acquired together with the many family master blenders (providores, in Portuguese), Cristiano met throughout his life.

Through this experience, Cristiano has tasted and crafted exquisite Port blends for over 40 years. The Van Zellers & Co XIX The Rare Port Collection are three unique Ports that Cristiano has found ageing in old cellars in the Douro and has helped keep alive along many years. This is the unveiling of this long liquid history.

MASTER BLENDER

Cristiano van Zeller

BOTTLING DATE

March 2024.

Total number of bottles per Collection: 3 x 75cl

Total number of Collections: 75

TASTING NOTES

Crafted by Liberty

With a deep mahogany core, surrounded by a halo of olive green, this Very Old Tawny Port shows an unrivalled complexity. Opulent aromas rise from the glass, predominantly of figs and dried raisins, but also hints of flowers, caramelized orange, soft notes of curry spices and touches of tobacco leaf with an added discrete scent of the fine oak where the wine has aged for well over a century. Rich and mellow, it has, what seems to be, an everlasting and mouth-watering finish.

19.5 / 20 – Julia Harding in JancisRobinson.com

97 Points – Sarah Ahmed, in Decanter Magazine

Crafted by Family

A dark mahogany core, with a bright rim. Fruity and open nose, with notes of dark, bitter-sweet toffee, dried figs, and a tone of caramelized citric fruits like bitter orange, and apricots. Incredibly balanced, with an intense sweetness being softly adorned by an equally bright freshness.

19 / 20 – Julia Harding in JancisRobinson.com

Crafted by Poetry

Only time can create such layered notes in a wine and poetry helps words describe the deep sensations it sparks. Concentrated, to quite a magical touch, this luscious wine has a pale amber halo and a greeny brown core. Notes of bitter orange, mocha, raisins, figs, and some floral touches make this expressive Very Old Tawny Port incredibly persistent, to nearly an endless finish. This wine speaks with a mystery of its own.

20 / 20 – Julia Harding in JancisRobinson.com

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Crafted by Liberty

Alcohol: 20,00%

Baumé: 6,2

pH: 3,64

Volatile Acidity: 2,07 grs/dm³

Total Sugars: 136 grs/dm³

Crafted by Family

Alcohol: 20,00%

Baumé: 9,4

pH: 3,58

Volatile Acidity: 2,72 grs/dm³

Total Sugars: 180 grs/dm³

Crafted by Poetry

Alcohol: 19,50%

Baumé: 8,2

pH: 3,56

Volatile Acidity: 2,40 grs/dm³

Total Sugars: 158 grs/dm³